

a. 5. The method of claim 3, wherein the substrate blank is formed to have one of a structure in which the substrate blank has a small-thickness portion in a central portion and a large-thickness portion in a circumferential portion, a structure in which the substrate has a large-thickness portion in a central portion and a small-thickness portion in a circumferential portion, and a structure in which the blank has a large-thickness portion in each of a central portion and a circumferential portion and a small-thickness portion between the circumferential portion and the central portion.

6. The method of claim 1, wherein a molten glass as the glass in a softened state is supplied onto the lower mold member and press-molded.

7. The method of claim 1, wherein the mold having upper and lower mold members is adjusted to have a lower temperature than the glass in a softened state to press-mold the glass.

8. The method of claim 1, wherein the substrate blank has the form of a disk.

9. The method of claim 1, wherein the substrate blank has a thickness whose minimum value and maximum value are both in the range of from 0.8mm to 2.2mm.

10. The method of claim 1, wherein the substrate blank is for use as an intermediate for a substrate for an information recording medium.

11. A method for producing a substrate, which comprises cutting and polishing the substrate blank produced by the method recited in claim 1.